

Supplement to the Maryland Gazette.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 1808.

Maryland Gazette.

ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, August 4, 1808.

Very Late & Important News.

We did not receive our Baltimore papers by yesterday's Packet until this morning. The very late and important News contained in them relative to Spain, induces us to issue a Supplement containing the whole of the information received on that subject.

NORFOLK, July 28.

YESTERDAY morning arrived here an officer from his Britannic Majesty's brig *Emulous*, Lieut. Stupor, which anchored on Tuesday evening off Old Point Light-House, in 17 days from Barbadoes, with dispatches from Admiral Cochrane to Col. Hamilton and Mr. Erskine, the British Minister. To the politeness and attention of Col. Hamilton we are indebted for copies of the following very Important Letters:—

Spain in an Uproar!

Extract of a letter from Lord Collingwood to Admiral Cochrane, dated off Cadiz, June 18, 1808.

"The Flying Fish having joined me on her way to Barbadoes, I avail myself of the opportunity to put you in possession of such events as have occurred in Spain, and come to my knowledge.

"You will doubtless have been already informed of the resignation of the Crown of Spain by Charles IV. to his son—of the dismissal of the Prince of Peace, and the seizure of his estates—of the accession of Ferdinand VII.—that Buonaparte had inveigled both those Princes, and the rest of the Royal Family, to meet him at Bayonne—that he made them all prisoners, having obliged Ferdinand to return the crown to his father, and induced the old King to lay it at his feet, to be disposed of as he might direct.

"Soon after Ferdinand quitted Madrid to proceed to Bayonne, the Grand Duke of Berg assumed to himself the temporary command of the government of the country, by the title of Lieutenant General of the Kingdom. This usurpation the Spanish nation has resisted almost to a man. The spirit to oppose French tyranny, the abhorrence of the acts which have been practised against the Royal Family and the State, and the unanimity and enthusiasm manifested to restore the Nation to its independence, was, perhaps, never surpassed in any country or in any cause; even in the parts where the French are in force, (as at Madrid and Barcelona,) this spirit is said to exist in its full extent, though the avowal of it is punished.

"At Cadiz on the 8th and 9th instant, the French squadron of five sail of the line and a frigate, which at the beginning of this revolution had moved up near Caraccas, were bombarded; and after the suspension of the attack for four days, on the morning of the 14th they struck their colours, and were taken possession of by the Spaniards.

"As a provincial government each province has established a Junta of several persons, of the greatest influence, to which the people are obedient, and the most zealous in its cause—thus, of Andalusia, is one with which the English have had most communication. Its army is commanded by General Castanos, and for its state, &c. I beg to refer you to the enclosed copy of a letter* from Captain Bradford, an officer of the English forces, who had been with them some time. The masse of the province of Valencia, and of Asturias, is equally numerous, and that of the former, aided by some regulars, is said to be on the way to Madrid to drive the French out of it—In short, Sir, the whole population of the country is in arms, and whenever the French meet a Spaniard, they find an inveterate enemy.

"To the English nation the Spaniards look as that on which they depend for support, and security against the common enemy; and some districts have declared themselves at peace with Great Britain, without waiting for the usual forms; but as commissioners deputed from the Supreme Council at Seville have today gone to England in the *Revenge*, to treat with his Majesty's government, I make no

doubt the wish of the Spanish nation will soon be gratified by a regular convention.

"The French are making considerable exertions to get a large army into Spain, but the spirit of the nation is so fully roused, that, if her councils are judicious, and their leaders act with ability and firmness, there is ample means to resist them, and all may end well.

"His majesty's government has directed in this crisis, that every assistance shall be afforded. I have supplied them with powder from the ships, and about 5000 men under major-general Spencer is on their coast ready to act as circumstances may make necessary, and a further force by this time is on its way from England.

"The Portuguese, although disarmed, are said to be rising in all parts of the country, to expel the French, which they have done at Oporto—and as the enemy's troops there are very few and very much divided, there is every reason to suppose they will be successful. Their principal force is at Lisbon, which consists of about five thousand men; and a large body of people, (thirty thousand,) partly natives and part Spaniards, under the command of the Portuguese general Goncztrere, were, by the last accounts I received, on the march to attack it. The Russian squadron under admiral Sentavin, which is in the Tagus, will probably share the same fate; indeed, there is no indication on their part of much zeal towards their new allies.

"I have thought it necessary to give you this information of the state of affairs in Spain, as his majesty's government have directed that every aid may be given to them, for maintaining their independence as a nation, and resisting the ambitious projects of France.

"All the decrees, and every act of the several juntos, or supreme councils throughout Spain, are in the name of Ferdinand 7th, who is a prisoner to Buonaparte, as well as his two brothers, and the country is at present governed by those juntos in the several provinces.

"The importance of preserving the colonies from falling into the influence of France, you must be well aware of, and that the French have already taken measures for seducing them; so that every means should be used to inform them of the true state of affairs here, and of the brave resistance made by their country. For this purpose I am authorised by his majesty's government to give passports to ships or vessels which are employed either in conveying their dispatches and orders to the colonies, or the persons they may think it necessary to send out to conduct their affairs in this very critical juncture—I have given some passports for this purpose. Two frigates and several feluccas, intended for the provinces in America, will be ready to proceed to different parts of America, and I request you will please to apprise the officers under your command of those Spanish ships and vessels, which they may probably meet, and direct them to give every aid to them in the service in which they are employed.

"Those vessels will have merchandise in them, the adventures in general of the crew; and some of them will also have quicksilver, which is much wanted at La Vera Cruz. The passports I give you are intended to include those articles—indeed, at this moment, there should be no litigation—Every encouragement ought to be given to the Spaniards, and their vessels carrying dispatches, be considered as friends."

"P. S. The information contained in this letter you will be pleased to communicate to the Governors of the several islands within the limits of your command."

* Extract of a letter from Rear Admiral Purvis, dated Utrera, June 12, 1808.

"On receiving directions to proceed to the Junta, at Seville, I was particularly commanded by major-general Spencer, to communicate to you direct, the information I thought of any consequence; and with the particular points in view, specified in the orders I received, I lost no time in communicating what his Serene Highness the President of Andalusia, &c. has given me as the just account of their affairs. I beg leave to observe, the utmost frankness appeared to guide them, and the most decisive firmness strengthened the relation they made.

"They described their regular force, joined by the camp at St. Roque, at 12,000, of which 6000 occupy the position of Comona, with 15 pieces of from 6 to 8 pounders; their cavalry, and the remaining force, is at Seville, Utrera, and the small houses in the neighbourhood; the entire force, they think, may be increased by small bodies who arrive daily, and three regiments of peasants, to whose instruction they have commanded every attention should be given.

"By intercepted letters from general Dupont, commanding the French at Cordova, they learnt his orders to M. Dubris, to proceed from Tavira to Seville direct; others bid him not obey this order, but join him by the shortest road at Cordova; complain they have no answers; and in the last brought yesterday, bid him be expeditious, as he is desirous, when reinforced, to drive the rebels from Seville. On the obtaining of the first, the council dispatched general Johnston, with 3000 regulars, and gave directions to the government at Ayamonte, to put the armed peasantry in motion. From the impassability of the deeply intersefted grounds from this to Seville and Cordova, they do not apprehend the French can proceed, and certainly must abandon the ten pieces of cannon, if they are not all destroyed; and if he is not, they impute it to his having moved by the left and the river, to join gen. Dupont at Cordova.

"The irregular force they have given arms is, by the number of rations given, from 76 to 75,000, and would increase to any number they would wish. This zeal to join the army is repeated by the order in council just enforced.

"I am just returned from the advanced guard at Comona, where the utmost confidence exists; and in an admirable position, they are prepared to check the advance of the French, who as yet have made no indication of moving from Cordova, in front of which city they are employed in strengthening an excellent position by works.

"General Johnston's corps is returned, and has marched to the main body of the Spanish regulars at Utrera, which is the head quarters of the Captain-General Castanos.

"When at Comona, I saw 300 Swiss who had just arrived from Carpi, where they were posted on their march from Madrid; others attempted to follow, but it is supposed they were obliged to disperse.

"To describe the sentiments of the people, I need only observe, the lowest class cannot be bribed to convey any intelligence, as appears by the numerous letters they deliver to the magistrates, when the impossibility of knowing they are traitors, would insure them every means of passing and re-passing, undiscovered.

"Some evil minded men have been arrested; but their names and number are so inconsiderable, that it has not been thought of sufficient moment to punish them.

"The accounts from Portugal are as favourable as can be desired. Mr. Caraffa, commanding the Spanish forces at Lisbon, and the Marquis de Montega who commands at Oport, have assured the Junta of their concurrence in the measures adopted; their intention of countenancing the desertions of the men, and the success of this design.—M. Caraffa's letter adds, the Russian squadron would not oppose any attempt of the English to land a force in that part.

"The Presidios of Africa are secured by the arrest of the French emissaries sent there to liberate the slaves, insomuch that they are withdrawing much of their force from them, to increase their defence before Seville.

"The Junta had dispatched intelligence to the colonies of the change in affairs; but some intercepted letters discover the design in the French, who, assured the country was at their feet, sent out orders to remove some of the higher officers, and naming those in their interest. From Bourdeaux, the Junta fear the intelligence may get to the settlements, but not from Spain, as they have gotten even to quintuple copies of the orders, and I am desirous to express the satisfaction they should feel, if a few English light vessels were dispatched to intercept these orders, known to have failed for the Havanna, Cuba and Vera Cruz.

"Gen. Morlay's late suspension of attack on the fleet at Cadiz, has been answered by the most positive orders to take them. The officers and privates are to have their private property restored to them inviolate, and the liberty to return to France, if the English approve of the terms; but the unconditional surrender of the fleet is determined on here.

"From a collective body, all much occupied, I could not expect much information, and compelled to trust to my memory for names, some confusion may at first occur; but a little at leisure I shall get over these difficulties, selecting the individuals most proper for my views.

(Signed)

K. I. BRADFORD,
D. Ad Gen.

"P. S. The intelligence of this day, has diffused the most desirable activity into the Junta. A deputy has arrived, acknowledging the supremacy of the Junta; the Junta of La Mancha detail by him the numerous Peasantry in arms, the attack of a French force at Andrican, with the entire destruction of them.